

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 03/00792

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G21C19/42 C25C3/34

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G21C C25C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 01 41152 A (BRITISH NUCLEAR FUELS PLC ;HATTER JUSTINE ELIZABETH (GB); THIED RO) 7 June 2001 (2001-06-07) page 1, line 1 -page 4, line 26 ---	1-26
X	US 5 378 325 A (DASTOLFO JR LEROY E ET AL) 3 January 1995 (1995-01-03) column 6, line 49 -column 6, line 60; figure 3 ---	1
A	WO 00 40782 A (NORA VITTORIO DE ;MOLTECH INVENT SA (LU)) 13 July 2000 (2000-07-13) page 15, line 32 -page 15, line 39 ---	1-26
A	US 5 650 053 A (GAY EDDIE C ET AL) 22 July 1997 (1997-07-22) abstract; figure 1 ---	1-26
	-/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 August 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

12/08/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Lohberger, S

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 03/00792

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 160 367 A (PIERCE R DEAN ET AL) 3 November 1992 (1992-11-03) abstract ---	1-26
A	US 3 982 928 A (CHIOTTI PREMO ET AL) 28 September 1976 (1976-09-28) abstract ---	1-26
E	US 6 540 902 B1 (GOURISHANKAR KARTHICK ET AL) 1 April 2003 (2003-04-01) column 2, line 5 -column 7, line 35; figures 1-5 ----- -----	1-26

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 03/00792

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 0141152	A	07-06-2001	AU 2187401 A	12-06-2001
			EP 1240647 A2	18-09-2002
			WO 0141152 A2	07-06-2001
			JP 2003515752 T	07-05-2003

US 5378325	A	03-01-1995	US 5279715 A	18-01-1994
			US 5415742 A	16-05-1995

WO 0040782	A	13-07-2000	AU 1793100 A	24-07-2000
			CA 2357717 A1	13-07-2000
			EP 1149187 A1	31-10-2001
			WO 0040782 A1	13-07-2000
			NO 20013378 A	07-09-2001
			SK 9582001 A3	05-02-2002
			US 2002027069 A1	07-03-2002

US 5650053	A	22-07-1997	NONE	

US 5160367	A	03-11-1992	NONE	

US 3982928	A	28-09-1976	US 8538491 I5	17-02-1976

US 6540902	B1	01-04-2003	NONE	
